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Isaac T. Gillam family papers MS.000400

Finding aid prepared by the Arkansas State Archives

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

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Repository Arkansas State Archives

Title Isaac T. Gillam family papers

Date [inclusive] 1898-1943

Extent 1.0 Cubic feet 3 boxes

Language English

Language of Materials Materials entirely in English.

Preferred Citation

Isaac T. Gillam family papers, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Biographical/Historical Note

Isaac T. Gillam, Jr., was born in Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas, on April 21, 1875, the son of Isaac and Cora Gillam. The elder Gillam, a prominent Little Rock resident, served in the Arkansas legislature from 1882-1884. Isaac Gillam, Jr., received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C., in 1898, and studied at Yale University for one year. He married Lida Anthony in 1904 and they had three children. Gillam taught school in Little Rock and Fort Smith, Arkansas; however, he returned to Little Rock in 1908 and served as principal of the Mifflin W. Gibbs High School and supervisor of all African American high schools in the city. Isaac Gillam, Jr. was active in the State Teachers Association (later known as the Arkansas Teachers Association). He also advocated for the rights of African Americans and worked with political associations. He held memberships and offices in several fraternal organizations, including the Knights of Pythias, Knights and Daughters of Tabor, Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, Prince Hall Masons, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. Gillam was also a member and trustee of Bethel A.M.E. (African Methodist Episcopal) Church in Little Rock. Isaac T. Gillam, Jr. died on June 6, 1953, in Little Rock, Arkansas. In 1963, Gillam Elementary School in Little Rock was named in his honor.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains the family papers of Isaac and Lida Anthony Gillam, including correspondence (consisting mainly of postcards), receipts, fraternal insurance policies, printed materials, photographs, and memorabilia.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Arkansas State Archives 11/18/2008

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Anita J. Marshall, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 2001.

Related Materials

Separated Materials

Collection Inventory

Biographical and correspondence	
	Box
1. Biography: Gilliam, Isaac T.	1
2. Correspondence: Gillam, Isaac T., 1898-1915	
3. Correspondence: Gillam, Isaac T., 1916-1919	
4. Correspondence: Gillam, Isaac T., 1920-1923	
5. Correspondence: Gillam, Isaac T., 1924-1930	
6. Correspondence: Gillam, Isaac T., undated	
7. Correspondence: Gillam, Lida A., 1910-1918	
8. Correspondence: Gillam, Lida A., 1919-1920	
9. Correspondence: Gillam, Lida A., 1921-1928	
10. Correspondence: Gillam, Lida A., undated	
11. Correspondence: Gillam, Dorothy, 1909-1919	

12. Correspondence: Gillam, Dorothy, 1920-1922	
13. Correspondence: Gillam, Dorothy, 1923-1943	
14. Correspondence: Gillam, Dorothy, undated	
15. Correspondence: Gillam, Isaac T., III, 1917-1920	
16. Correspondence: Gillam, Anthony, 1919-1924	
17. Correspondence: Gillam, Isaac T., III and Anthony Gillam, 1916-1918	
18. Correspondence: Anthony, E.P., 1915-1922	
19. Miscellaneous correspondence: 1918-1919, 1929	
20. Miscellaneous envelopes	
Documents and memorabilia	
Box	
1. Financial documents: Receipts (Bethel A.M.E. Church, Little Rock, Arkansas)	
2. Financial documents: Receipts	
3. Financial documents: Receipts	

4. Financial documents: Receipts
5. Financial documents: Odd Fellows Benefit Association, benefit certificate, 1909
6. Legal documents: Knights and Daughters of Tabor, endowment certificate, 1928
7. Legal documents: Death notice and benefits for Mary Black
8. Memorabilia: Algebra paper and notes
9. Memorabilia: Picture postcards
10. Memorabilia: Gibbs High School baseball tickets and valuable coupons
11: Memorabilia: "The World of Nature" [educational cards]
12. Memorabilia: Postage stamps
13. Memorabilia: Postage stamps
14. Memorabilia: Miscellaneous
15. Programs and booklets
1. Souvenir pamphlet, mass meeting, "Liberty and justice to all the people," 1903 March 10

- 2. Nous Modernes Club, second annual play, "The Donovan Affair," Dunbar High School Auditorium, December 21, 1931, presented by special arrangement with Samuel French Company, New York City
- 3. "Program of the Third District Meeting of the Association of Teachers of Negro Youth of Arkansas," Scipio A. Jones High School, North Little Rock, Arkansas, 1932 November 4-5
- 4. Advertisement announcement: "A History of Freemasonry among the American Negroes" by Harry A. Williamson, Prince Hall Masonic Publishing Company, New York, New York, 1929
- 5. Receipt booklet: "The National Conservator," The Conservator Publishing Company, Little Rock, Arkansas [organ of the Federal Council for Negro Uplift]
- 6. "Solar Ephermeris for 1924 and other Tables and Data useful to the Surveyor," Keuffel and Esser Company, New York
- 16. Newspapers and bulletin
- 1. "Pine Bluff Daily Commercial," 1909 August 11
- 2. "Arkansas Masonic Monitor," Little Rock, Arkansas, May 1926, volume X, number 5 [fragile]
- 3. "The Howard University Bulletin," Washington, District of Columbia, volume XII, number 1 [fragile]
- 17. "A Prelude to Armageddon and Beyond"

Printed material and photographs

Box

1. Printed materials	3
Graphics: "For she's a jolly good fellow" [2 prints]	

Cartoon graphic: Woman on horseback, slaying a female dragon named "SNOBBEERY" [1]

Framed portrait: African American, young woman with long curls

2. Photographs

- 1. African American couple; man sitting, dressed like a minister with woman standing [Photographer: J. Frank Wells, 416 1/2 Union Street, Nashville, Tennessee. portrait, 4x6]
- 3. Photographs
- 2. African American; young man wearing glasses, striped jacket, high shirt collar, cravat tie, American flag pin on lapel [portrait, 4x5 1/2]
- 4. Photographs
- 3. African American; young man dressed in suit with collar and cravat tie [Photographer: The Carolina Studio, 231 East Avenue, Charlotte, North Carolina, post card portrait, 5 1/2 x 3 1/2; fragile]
- 4. African American; four young women sitting together on the grass [3 1/2 x 2 1/2]
- 5. African American; woman wearing white dress, sitting with hands folded [post card portrait, $3\ 1/2\ x\ 5\ 1/2$]

- 6. African American; young woman wearing a sweater and scarf [portrait, 4x6]
- 7. African American; four women standing [4 1/2 x 2 3/4]